



THE STATUTES OF THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE

SINGAPORE TOTALISATOR BOARD ACT

(CHAPTER 305A)

(Original Enactment: Act 29 of 1987)

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Singapore Totalisator Board Act

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An Act to provide for the establishment of the Singapore Totalisator Board and to regulate the conduct of betting by agencies of the Board, and for matters connected therewith.

[1st January 1988]

PART I

PRELIMINARY

Short title

1. This Act may be cited as the Singapore Totalisator Board Act.

Interpretation

2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires —
 - “advertisement” includes —
 - (a) any notice, circular, pamphlet, brochure, programme, price-list, label, wrapper or other document; and
 - (b) any announcement, notification or intimation to the public or any section thereof or to any person or persons made —
 - (i) orally or in writing;

- (ii) by means of any poster, placard, notice or other document affixed, posted up or displayed on any wall, billboard or hoarding or on any other object or thing;
- (iii) by means of producing or transmitting sound or light and whether for aural or visual reception or both;
- (iv) by means of any writing on any vehicle or any object or thing; or
- (v) in any other manner whatsoever;

“Board” means the Singapore Totalisator Board established under section 3;

“chief executive” means the chief executive of the Board, and includes any individual acting in that capacity;

[Act 5 of 2018 wef 01/04/2018]

“gaming” means the playing of any game of chance or of mixed chance and skill for money or money’s worth;

“horse race” includes a pony race;

“lottery” includes any game, method, device, scheme or competition whereby money or money’s worth is distributed or allotted in any manner depending upon or to be determined by chance or lot;

“race course” means any land used for the purpose of a race meeting;

“race meeting” means a meeting for the purpose of horse racing;

“totalisator” means any instrument for wagering or betting known by that name, and any other instrument, device, machine or method of a like nature and conducted on the same principles, and includes a numbers forecast totalisator paying a fixed minimum dividend;

“totalisator agency” means any totalisator agency appointed by the Board, and includes any premises in which totalisator investments may be received;

“totalisator investment” means any money, currency note or cheque, or such other form of payment as may be approved by the Minister, received for investment on the totalisator;

“turf club” means any club, association or other body of persons (whether incorporated or unincorporated) established for the purpose of promoting, conducting and controlling the sport of horse racing;

“writing” includes painting, inscription, printing, lithography, typewriting, photography and other modes of representing or reproducing words or figures in visible form.

[13/2004; 12/2008]

PART II

SINGAPORE TOTALISATOR BOARD

Establishment and incorporation of Singapore Totalisator Board

3. There is hereby established a Board to be known as the Singapore Totalisator Board which shall be a body corporate with perpetual succession and a common seal and shall, by that name, be capable of —

- (a) suing and being sued;
- (b) acquiring, owning, holding and developing or disposing of property, both movable and immovable; and
- (c) doing and suffering such other acts or things as bodies corporate may lawfully do and suffer.

Functions of Board

4.—(1) The functions of the Board are —

- (a) to establish, operate or conduct any totalisator, lottery, betting or gaming activity;
- (b) to conduct equine research and establish, maintain and improve turf clubs, training centres for apprentices, jockeys, blacksmiths and others employed in connection

with racing, and other places used in connection with racing;

- (c) to establish or operate any totalisator agency;
- (d) with the approval of the Minister, to establish and maintain places and facilities for recreation on land owned or held by the Board and to carry out such activities as appear to the Board to be requisite, advantageous or convenient for or in connection with its functions;
- (e) to improve racing generally; and
- (f) to issue or approve and, from time to time, modify rules in relation to —
 - (i) the operation or conduct of any totalisator, lottery, betting or gaming activity established by the Board;
or
 - (ii) the operation of any totalisator agency or any agent appointed by the Board.

[4/97; 13/2004; 12/2008]

(2) The Minister may, after consultation with the Board, give to the Board such general directions, not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, as to the policy to be followed by the Board in the exercise and performance of its powers and functions under this Act as appear to the Minister to be required in the public interest, and the Board shall as soon as possible give effect to any such directions.

[4/97]

(3) The Board shall furnish the Minister with information with respect to its property and activities in such manner and at such times as the Minister may require.

[4/97]

Powers of Board

5.—(1) The Board shall, subject to the provisions of this Act, have power to do all such things as are in its opinion necessary for or conducive to the proper discharge of its functions under this Act and, in particular, the Board shall have power —

- (a) to provide assistance and advice relating to racing, betting and gaming in Singapore or elsewhere;
- (b) to subscribe for or acquire any securities, stocks or shares of any company or to form or participate in the formation of any company, partnership or joint venture for the purpose of carrying out any function of the Board or for such other purposes as the Minister may approve; and
- (c) to suspend or revoke any totalisator, lottery, betting or gaming activity established by any totalisator agency or any agent appointed by the Board.

[4/97; 13/2004; 12/2008]

(2) Subject to any regulations made under section 21, the Board may, from time to time, distribute any moneys forming part of the funds of the Board and not required by it in the exercise of its functions under section 4 for all or any of the following purposes:

- (a) public, social or charitable purposes;
- (b) the promotion of culture, art and sport generally in Singapore.

Directions by Minister

5A. The Minister may give to the Board any direction under section 5 of the Public Sector (Governance) Act 2018.

[Act 5 of 2018 wef 01/04/2018]

Members of Board

6.—(1) The Board shall consist of —

- (a) a Chairman; and
- (b) not less than 4 and not more than 11 other members as the Minister may from time to time determine.

[13/2004]

(2) The First Schedule shall have effect with respect to the Board, its members and proceedings.

Chief executive

6A.—(1) There must be a chief executive of the Board, whose appointment, removal, discipline and promotion must be in accordance with the Public Sector (Governance) Act 2018.

(2) The Board may, subject to the Public Sector (Governance) Act 2018, appoint an individual to act temporarily as the chief executive during any period, or during all periods, when the chief executive —

- (a) is absent from duty or Singapore; or
- (b) is, for any reason, unable to perform the duties of the office.

[Act 5 of 2018 wef 01/04/2018]

Appointment of officers, etc.

7.—(1) Subject to subsection (2) and the Public Sector (Governance) Act 2018, the Board may, from time to time, on such terms and conditions as it may determine —

- (a) appoint and employ such officers, employees, consultants or agents; and
- (b) appoint such totalisator agencies,

as may be necessary for the effective performance of its functions.

[12/2008]

[Act 5 of 2018 wef 01/04/2018]

(2) The Board shall obtain the approval of the Minister for the appointment of —

- (a) any agent to operate or conduct any totalisator, lottery, betting or gaming activity; or
- (b) any totalisator agency.

[12/2008]

Bank accounts and application of revenue

8.—(1) The Board shall open and maintain an account or accounts with such bank or banks as the Board thinks fit.

(2) Every such account shall be operated by such person or persons as may, from time to time, be authorised in that behalf by the Board.

(3) The moneys of the Board shall be applied only in payment or discharge of the expenses, obligations and liabilities of the Board and in making any payments that the Board is authorised or required to make.

Power of investment

9. The Board may invest its moneys in accordance with the standard investment power of statutory bodies as defined in section 33A of the Interpretation Act (Cap. 1).

[45/2004]

Issue of shares, etc.

9A. As a consequence of the vesting of any property, rights or liabilities of the Government in the Board under this Act, or of any capital injection or other investment by the Government in the Board in accordance with any written law, the Board shall issue such shares or other securities to the Minister for Finance as that Minister may from time to time direct.

[5/2002]

Power to borrow

9B.—(1) The Board may, from time to time, for the purposes of this Act, raise loans from the Government or, with the approval of the Minister, raise loans within or outside Singapore from such source as the Minister may direct by —

- (a) mortgage, overdraft or other means, with or without security;
- (b) charge, whether legal or equitable, on any property vested in the Board or on any other revenue receivable by the Board under this Act or any other written law; or
- (c) the creation and issue of debentures, bonds or any other instrument as the Minister may approve.

[14/2005]

(2) For the purposes of this section, the power to raise loans shall include the power to make any financial agreement whereby credit facilities are granted to the Board for the purchase of goods or services.

[14/2005]

Financial year

10. The financial year of the Board begins on 1 April of each year and ends on 31 March of the succeeding year.

[Act 5 of 2018 wef 01/04/2018]

PART III

TOTALISATORS AND TOTALISATOR AGENCIES

11. [Repealed by Act 12 of 2008]

Calculation of dividend

12.—(1) It shall be the duty of the Board and any totalisator agency operating a totalisator to pay out by way of dividend all moneys received from investments on the totalisator after deducting —

- (a) the amount of any duty charged under the Betting and Sweepstake Duties Act (Cap. 22); and
- (b) the amount of any commission prescribed, or determined in any manner prescribed, in any regulations made under section 21.

[14/2005; 12/2008]

(2) It shall not be necessary to pay out fractions of a dollar.

(3) Any investment on any horse which is scratched or otherwise withdrawn in accordance with the rules issued, approved or modified under section 4(1)(f) shall be refunded without deduction of such duty and commission mentioned in subsection (1).

[4/97; 12/2008]

Proportion of deduction from investment to belong to Board

13. The sums deducted by way of commission in accordance with section 12(1)(b), together with any fractional money arising pursuant to the operation of section 12(2), shall be deemed for all purposes to

belong to and form part of the general funds of the Board and may be apportioned between the Board and the totalisator agency in such proportion and in such manner as may be approved by the Minister.

[12/2008]

PART IV

MISCELLANEOUS

Admission to race courses

14.—(1) A turf club may admit members of the public to any race course or premises under the control or supervision of the club or of any one or more of the officers of such club on payment of an admission fee.

(2) [*Deleted by Act 4 of 2021 wef 01/03/2021*]

(3) A turf club may, from time to time, make by-laws controlling the admission of persons to any race course or premises used or occupied by such club for race meetings or for the placing of investments on the totalisator.

[12/2008]

(4) Any by-laws made under this section may provide for the exclusion from a race course or such premises of any specified class or description of persons, either absolutely or subject to such conditions as may be prescribed by such by-laws.

(5) This section —

(a) shall be applicable to any race course notwithstanding the fact that it is or forms part of a reserve or other place in respect of which there exists a right of public use or entry; and

(b) shall not be deemed to limit the power of any club to exclude or remove any person from any race course occupied by the club and which is free from such right of public use or entry.

(6) An officer of the turf club may remove from the race course or such premises any person who contravenes any by-law made under

this section and who fails or refuses to leave the race course or such premises after being requested by such officer to do so.

[12/2008]

(7) Every by-law or amendment of or addition to or revocation of or substitution for any by-law made under this section shall, within 30 days of its coming into operation —

- (a) be published on the Internet website of the Singapore Turf Club (the publication cost of which shall be borne by the turf club which made, amended, added to, revoked or substituted the by-laws); and
- (b) be displayed prominently within the premises of the turf club.

[12/2008]

(8) No by-law made under this section shall be inconsistent with any law for the time being in force in Singapore and any such by-law which is so inconsistent shall, to the extent of the inconsistency, be void.

[12/2008]

Authority of totalisator operations and investments in accordance with provisions of Act

15. Notwithstanding the provisions of any other law to the contrary, it shall be lawful for any person of or above the age of 18 years —

- (a) to lodge totalisator investments and receive dividends in respect of such investments in accordance with such rules as may be issued, approved or modified under section 4(1)(f); or
- (b) to buy a ticket or chance or take part in any totalisator, lottery, betting or gaming activity operated in accordance with such rules as may be issued, approved or modified under section 4(1)(f).

[12/2008]

16. [Repealed by Act 12 of 2008]

17. [Repealed by Act 12 of 2008]

Investment on totalisator after time of race prohibited

18. Subject to the rules issued, approved or modified under section 4(1)(f) and any regulations made under section 21, any member, officer, agent or employee of the Board or any totalisator agency who —

- (a) receives or permits to be received any investment on the totalisator in respect of any race after the start of the race;
- (b) registers on the totalisator after the start of any race any moneys received for investment in respect of that race;
- (c) takes into account in the calculation or payment of any dividend any investment which has not been publicly registered on the totalisator in accordance with this section;
- (d) receives or permits to be received any investment on the totalisator elsewhere than at the totalisator itself; or
- (e) makes, authorises or permits the payment to any person of any dividend which is not calculated in accordance with section 12,

shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$10,000.

[12/2008]

Power of arrest

19. Any police officer may arrest without warrant any person whom he has reason to believe has committed an offence under section 18.

[12/2008]

Inspection of totalisators and totalisator agencies

20. A police officer not below the rank of inspector may at any time enter for the purpose of inspection any premises in which any totalisator or totalisator agency is operated, and may during such inspection examine any books, accounts, records or other documents, or any machine or equipment, for the time being used in the operation of the totalisator or totalisator agency, and seize any such books, accounts, records, documents, machine or equipment which he has reasonable cause to believe to be evidence of the commission of any

offence under this Act, and may demand from any person for the time being having the care and management of the totalisator or totalisator agency or any part thereof any information that he considers necessary for the purpose of the inspection.

Composition of offences

20A.—(1) Any public officer authorised by the Minister may compound any offence under this Act which is prescribed as a compoundable offence by collecting from a person reasonably suspected of having committed the offence a sum not exceeding —

(a) one half of the amount of the maximum fine that is prescribed for the offence; or

(b) \$5,000,

whichever is the lower.

[12/2008]

(2) On payment of such sum of money, no further proceedings shall be taken against that person in respect of the offence.

[12/2008]

(3) All sums collected under this section shall be paid into the Consolidated Fund.

[12/2008]

General exemption

20B. The Minister may, by order published in the *Gazette* and subject to such conditions as he may impose, exempt any person or class of persons from all or any of the provisions of this Act.

[12/2008]

Power to make regulations

21.—(1) The Minister may, from time to time, make such regulations as he may consider necessary or expedient to give effect to the provisions of this Act and for the due administration thereof.

[12/2008]

(2) In particular and without prejudice to the generality of the powers conferred by subsection (1), regulations may be made to —

- (a) regulate any advertisement in relation to any totalisator, lottery, betting or gaming activity of —
 - (i) the Board;
 - (ii) any totalisator agency; or
 - (iii) any agent appointed by the Board;
- (b) prescribe the offences which may be compounded; and
- (c) provide that any person who contravenes the regulations shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$5,000 and, in the case of a second or subsequent conviction, to a fine not exceeding \$10,000.

[12/2008]

Property of Singapore Turf Club to be held on trust for Board

22.—(1) The following property and funds of the Singapore Turf Club, a society registered under the Societies Act (Cap. 311), shall with effect from 9th November 1987 be deemed to be held by the Club on trust for the purposes of the Board and the Board may at any time require the Club to transfer to the Board any such property or funds for those purposes:

- (a) all immovable property owned by the Club on that date;
- (b) all funds and investments belonging to the Club on that date.

(2) If any question arises as to whether any particular property, fund or investment is held on trust for the Board, the matter shall be determined by the Minister and a certificate under the hand of the Minister shall be conclusive evidence of the matter certified therein.

(3) The Board may grant to the Singapore Turf Club out of the funds deemed to be held by the Club on trust for the Board such sums of money as the Board may determine to enable the Club to meet the expenses of carrying out its operations and to maintain or improve its facilities and for such other purpose as the Board thinks fit.

(4) Notwithstanding subsection (1), the Singapore Turf Club may, from 9th November 1987 to 1st January 1988, apply any funds

deemed to be held by the Club on trust for the Board for such purposes as may be approved by the Minister for Finance.

FIRST SCHEDULE

Section 6(2)

CONSTITUTION AND PROCEEDINGS OF BOARD

Appointment of Chairman and other members

1. The Chairman and other members shall be appointed by the Minister.

Tenure of office of members

2. A member shall hold office on such conditions and for such term, as the Minister may determine, and shall be eligible for reappointment.

Temporary members

3. The Minister may appoint any person to be a temporary member of the Board during the temporary incapacity from illness or otherwise, or during the temporary absence from Singapore, of any member.

Temporary Chairman

4. The Minister may appoint any member to be a temporary Chairman during the temporary incapacity from illness or otherwise, or during the temporary absence from Singapore, of the Chairman.

Revocation of appointment

5. The Minister may, at any time, revoke the appointment of the Chairman or any member without assigning any reason.

Resignation

6. Any member may resign from his appointment at any time by giving notice in writing to the Minister.

Chairman may delegate functions

7. The Chairman may, by instrument in writing, authorise any member to exercise any power or perform any function conferred on the Chairman by or under this Act.

FIRST SCHEDULE — *continued***Vacation of office**

8. The office of a member shall be vacated if he —
- (a) has been absent, without leave of the Board, from 3 consecutive meetings of the Board; or
 - (b) becomes in any manner disqualified for membership of the Board.

Filling of vacancies

9. If a member resigns, dies or has his appointment revoked or otherwise vacates his office before the expiry of the term for which he has been appointed, the Minister may appoint a person to fill the vacancy for the residue of the term for which the vacating member was appointed.

Disqualification from membership

10. No person shall be appointed or shall continue to hold office as a member if he —
- (a) is an undischarged bankrupt or has made any arrangement with his creditors; or
 - (b) has been sentenced to imprisonment for a term of not less than 6 months and has not received a free pardon.
11. [*Deleted by Act 5 of 2018 wef 01/04/2018*]

Fees, etc., payable to members of Board

12. There shall be paid to the Chairman and other members, out of the funds of the Board, such fees and allowances as the Minister may from time to time determine.

Meetings of Board

- 13.—(1) The Board shall meet for the despatch of business at such times and places as the Chairman may from time to time appoint.
- (2) At every meeting of the Board, a majority of the members of the Board shall form a quorum.
- (3) A decision at a meeting of the Board shall be adopted by a simple majority of the members present and voting except that in the case of an equality of votes the Chairman or member presiding shall have a casting vote in addition to his original vote.
- (4) The Chairman or in his absence the temporary Chairman shall preside at meetings of the Board.

FIRST SCHEDULE — *continued*

(5) Where both the Chairman and the temporary Chairman are absent at a meeting, such member as the members present may elect shall preside at that meeting.

(6) Where a majority of the members of the Board request the Chairman by notice in writing signed by them to convene a meeting of the Board for any purpose specified in the notice, the Chairman shall, within 7 days from the receipt of the notice, convene a meeting for that purpose.

Vacancies

14. The Board may act notwithstanding any vacancy in its membership.

Procedure at meetings

15. Subject to the provisions of this Act and the Public Sector (Governance) Act 2018, the Board may make rules to regulate its own procedure generally, and in particular, regarding the holding and proceedings of meetings, the notice to be given of such meetings, the keeping of minutes and the custody, production and inspection of such minutes.

[Act 5 of 2018 wef 01/04/2018]

Validity of proceedings

16. The validity of any proceedings of the Board shall not be affected by any defect in the appointment of any member or by any contravention of paragraph 10 by any member.

[12/2008]

SECOND SCHEDULE

[Deleted by Act 5 of 2018 wef 01/04/2018]

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY
SINGAPORE TOTALISATOR BOARD ACT
(CHAPTER 305A)

This Legislative History is provided for the convenience of users of the Singapore Totalisator Board Act. It is not part of the Act.

1. Act 29 of 1987 — Singapore Totalisator Board Act 1987

- Date of First Reading : 9 November 1987
(Bill No. 21/1987 published on
11 November 1987)
- Date of Second and Third Readings : 30 November 1987
- Date of commencement : 1 January 1988

**2. 1988 Revised Edition — Singapore Totalisator Board Act
(Chapter 305A)**

- Date of operation : 30 April 1988

3. Act 4 of 1991 — Singapore Totalisator Board (Amendment) Act 1991

- Date of First Reading : 9 November 1990
(Bill No. 33/1990 published on
12 November 1990)
- Date of Second and Third Readings : 20 December 1990
- Date of commencement : 1 April 1990

4. Act 4 of 1997 — Singapore Totalisator Board (Amendment) Act 1997

- Date of First Reading : 2 June 1997
(Bill No. 1/1997 published on
3 June 1997)
- Date of Second and Third Readings : 25 August 1997
- Date of commencement : 15 September 1997

**5. 1999 Revised Edition — Singapore Totalisator Board Act
(Chapter 305A)**

- Date of operation : 30 December 1999

**6. Act 5 of 2002 — Statutory Corporations (Capital Contribution) Act 2002
(Consequential amendments made to Act by)**

- Date of First Reading : 3 May 2002
(Bill No. 7/2002 published on
4 May 2002)

Date of Second and Third Readings : 24 May 2002
 Dates of commencement : 15 July 2002 (except item 18 of
 the Schedule)

7. Act 13 of 2004 — Singapore Totalisator Board (Amendment) Act 2004

Date of First Reading : 27 February 2004
 (Bill No. 8/2004 published on
 28 February 2004)
 Date of Second and Third Readings : 20 April 2004
 Date of commencement : 1 May 2004

8. Act 45 of 2004 — Trustees (Amendment) Act 2004

(Consequential amendments made to Act by)

Date of First Reading : 21 September 2004
 (Bill No. 43/2004 published on
 22 September 2004)
 Date of Second and Third Readings : 19 October 2004
 Date of commencement : 15 December 2004

9. Act 14 of 2005 — Betting and Sweepstake Duties (Amendment) Act 2005

(Consequential amendments made to Act by)

Date of First Reading : 28 February 2005
 (Bill No. 4/2005 published on
 1 March 2005)
 Date of Second and Third Readings : 11 March 2005
 Date of commencement : 1 April 2005

10. Act 12 of 2008 — Singapore Totalisator Board (Amendment) Act 2008

Date of First Reading : 26 May 2008
 (Bill No. 7/2008 published on
 26 May 2008)
 Date of Second and Third Readings : 21 July 2008
 Date of commencement : 27 December 2010

**11. 2012 Revised Edition — Singapore Totalisator Board Act
 (Chapter 305A)**

Date of operation : 31 July 2012

12. Act 5 of 2018 — Public Sector (Governance) Act 2018

Date of First Reading : 6 November 2017 (Bill No. 45/2017 published on 6 November 2017)

Date of Second and Third Readings : 8 January 2018

Date of commencement : 1 April 2018

13. Act 4 of 2021 — Statute Law Reform Act 2021

Date of First Reading : 3 November 2020 (Bill No. 45/2020 published on 3 November 2020)

Date of Second and Third Readings : 5 January 2021

Date of commencement : 1 March 2021

COMPARATIVE TABLE
SINGAPORE TOTALISATOR BOARD ACT
(CHAPTER 305A)

The following provisions in the 1988 Revised Edition of the Singapore Totalisator Board Act were renumbered by the Law Revision Commissioners in the 1999 Revised Edition.

This Comparative Table is provided for the convenience of users. It is not part of the Singapore Totalisator Board Act.

1999 Ed.	1988 Ed.
8—(1) and (2)	8—(1)
(3)	(2)
12—(1), (2) and (3)	12